

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 09647 091325Z
ACTION NEA-10

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C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 9647

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FOR NEA ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG EG US
SUBJ: U.S. - EGYPTIAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT

REF: (A) CAIRO 9534, (B) CAIRO 9050, (C) STATE 129467

1. DR. KAMAL EFFAT, CHAIRMAN OF EGYPTIAN ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY, SOUGHT OUT EMBOFF EVEING JUNE 8 TO MAKE "SOME CLARIFICATIONS" REGARDING DEPPRIMIN SULTAN'S LETTER TO AMBASSADOR RE NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT (REF B). REFERRING TO PARAGRAPH ON RATIFICATION OF NPT AND PLACING EXISTING AND FUTURE NUCLEAR FACILITIES UNDER SPECIAL BILATERAL SAFEGUARDS, EFFAT SAID THAT BOTH HE AND SULTAN WERE PREPARED TO RECOMMEND TO PRESIDENT SADAT THAT EGYPT RATIFY NPT AND ACCEPT WHATEVER SPECIAL SAFEGUARDS U.S. PROPOSED IN ORDER TO MOVE AGREEMENT TO COMPLETION. EFFAT SAID BASIS FOR MAKING THIS RECOMMENDATION WOULD HAVE TO BE GURANTEE THAT U.S. - EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT WOULD BE CONCLUDED QUICKLY AND THAT, WHENEVER U.S. /ISRAELI AGREEMENT CONCLUDED, ISRAELIS WOULD BE HELD TO SAME TERMS.

2. EMBOFF ASKED EFFAT WHAT HE THOUGH LIKELIHOOD SADAT'S REACTION WOULD BE TO SUCH RECOMMENDATION. EFFAT REPLIED DECISION WOULD BE DIFFICULT ONE BUT HE BELIEVED PRESIDENT
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WOULD OPT FOR SPEEDY CONCLUSION OF NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREE-
MENT.

3. COMMENT: EFFAT'S OBVIOUSLY PURPOSEFUL APPROACH TO EXPALIN SULTAN'S LETTER AND HIS FRANK STATEMENTS REGARDING POSSIBLE EGYPTIAN RATIFICATION OF NPT IN CONNECTION WITH CONCLUSION OF COOPERATION AGREEMENT COINCIDES WITH OUR ASSESSMENT CONVEYED

REFTEL. EFFAT'S OPENNESS IS CHARACTERISTIC OF OUR NEGOTIATIONS WITH EGYPTIANS ON NUCLEAR MATTERS. AS MENTIONED REFTEL, FINAL DECISION, SHOULD SUCH PROPOSITION BE PUT TO THEM, WILL BE DIFFICULT ONE FOR EGYPTIANS TO MAKE. IT IS CLEAR, HOWEVER, THERE ARE ELEMENTS IN GOE PREPARED TO PRESS FOR CONCESSIONS ON NPT AND SPECIAL SAFEGUARDS IN EXCHANGE FOR SEPARATE PROGRESS ON EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT, PROVIDED USG IS IN POSITION TO ASSURE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THAT AGREEMENT AND APPLICATION OF IDENTICAL TERMS TO FUTURE ISRAELI AGREEMENT.
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